

HOUSE BILL No. 1210

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 21-44-1; IC 21-44-6.

Synopsis: Psychiatry loan repayment program. Creates the mental health services loan forgiveness program to provide incentives to attract psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric nurses to practice in Indiana. Creates the mental health services loan forgiveness board to administer the loan forgiveness program. Creates the mental health services loan forgiveness account within the state general fund. Appropriates money to the account to fund the loan forgiveness program. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the commission on mental health.)

Effective: July 1, 2009.

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January 12, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Health.

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Introduced

First Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2009)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2008 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1210

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning higher education and to make an appropriation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 21-44-1-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2009]: **Sec. 1.5. "Account", for purposes of IC 21-44-6, refers to**
4 **the mental health services loan forgiveness account established by**
5 **IC 21-44-6-7.**

6 SECTION 2. IC 21-44-1-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007, SECTION
7 285, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
8 1, 2009]: **Sec. 3. (a) "Board", for purposes of IC 21-44-5, refers to the**
9 **medical education board established by IC 21-44-5-1.**

10 **(b) "Board", for purposes of IC 21-44-6, refers to the mental**
11 **health services loan forgiveness board established by IC 21-44-6-1.**

12 SECTION 3. IC 21-44-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
13 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
14 1, 2009]:

15 **Chapter 6. Mental Health Services Loan Forgiveness Program**

16 **Sec. 1. There is established the mental health services loan**
17 **forgiveness program to be administered by the mental health**



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1 services loan forgiveness board. The purpose of the program is to
 2 attract and train psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric
 3 nurses who will provide mental health services in Indiana.

4 **Sec. 2. The board consists of the following members:**

5 (1) The dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine or
 6 the dean's designee. The dean of the Indiana University
 7 School of Medicine or the dean's designee shall serve as the
 8 chairperson of the board.

9 (2) The chairperson of the department of psychiatry of the
 10 Indiana University School of Medicine or the chairperson's
 11 designee.

12 (3) The director of the division of mental health and addiction
 13 created by IC 12-21-1-1 or the director's designee.

14 (4) The commissioner of the state department of health or the
 15 commissioner's designee.

16 (5) The administrator of a graduate program in an institution
 17 of higher education in Indiana engaged in training
 18 psychologists.

19 (6) The administrator of a program in an institution of higher
 20 education in Indiana engaged in training advanced practice
 21 psychiatric nurses.

22 **Sec. 3. The board shall meet initially at the call of the governor.**
 23 **After the initial meeting, the board shall meet at least twice each**
 24 **year at the call of the chairperson.**

25 **Sec. 4. (a) Each board member who is not a state employee is not**
 26 **entitled to a salary per diem. The member is, however, entitled to**
 27 **reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under**
 28 **IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection**
 29 **with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and**
 30 **procedures established by the Indiana department of**
 31 **administration and approved by the budget agency.**

32 **(b) Each member of the board who is a state employee is entitled**
 33 **to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under**
 34 **IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection**
 35 **with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and**
 36 **procedures established by the Indiana department of**
 37 **administration and approved by the budget agency.**

38 **(c) The affirmative votes of a majority of the members**
 39 **appointed to the board are required for the board to take action on**
 40 **any measure.**

41 **Sec. 5. The purpose of the board is to develop and oversee a loan**
 42 **forgiveness program designed to attract:**

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1 (1) psychiatrists;
 2 (2) psychologists; and
 3 (3) psychiatric nurses;
 4 to provide services to individuals with mental illness in Indiana by
 5 assisting the individuals listed in this section to pay off loans
 6 incurred in the training needed to practice psychiatry and
 7 psychology and as a psychiatric nurse in Indiana.

8 **Sec. 6.** The board shall establish guidelines for the repayment of
 9 the loans incurred by a psychiatrist, psychologist, or psychiatric
 10 nurse, including the following:

11 (1) A participant may not receive more than twenty-five
 12 thousand dollars (\$25,000) in a year.

13 (2) A participant may not receive grants for more than four
 14 (4) years.

15 (3) The loan repayment grants must be used to attract
 16 individuals to begin practice in Indiana.

17 (4) A participant must be a practitioner who:

18 (A) is:

19 (i) from Indiana; and

20 (ii) establishing a new practice in Indiana; or

21 (B) is:

22 (i) from outside Indiana;

23 (ii) not currently practicing in Indiana and has not
 24 practiced in Indiana for three (3) years before applying
 25 for the program; and

26 (iii) establishing a new practice in Indiana.

27 **Sec. 7. (a)** The mental health services loan forgiveness account
 28 within the state general fund is established for the purpose of
 29 providing grants for loan repayment under this chapter. The
 30 account shall be administered by the board. Money in the account
 31 shall be used to fund loan forgiveness grants under this chapter.

32 (b) The account consists of:

33 (1) appropriations made by the general assembly;

34 (2) grants; and

35 (3) gifts and bequests.

36 (c) The expenses of administering the account shall be paid from
 37 money in the account.

38 (d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the account
 39 not currently needed to meet the obligations of the account in the
 40 same manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that
 41 accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the account.

42 (e) Money in the account at the end of a state fiscal year does not

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1 revert to the state general fund.

2 **(f) Money in the account is continually appropriated.**

3 SECTION 4. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009] **(a) There is**
4 **appropriated one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000) to the**
5 **mental health services loan forgiveness account established by**
6 **IC 21-44-6-7, as added by this act, from the state general fund for**
7 **the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010.**

8 **(b) There is appropriated three hundred twenty thousand**
9 **dollars (\$320,000) to the mental health services loan forgiveness**
10 **account established by IC 21-44-6-7, as added by this act, from the**
11 **state general fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010, and**
12 **ending June 30, 2011.**

13 **(c) This SECTION expires July 1, 2011.**

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